■ #4-5t-11-13-01

Docket No.: A-2829

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

LUTZ RICHTER ET AL.

Filed

Concurrently herewith

Title

GATHERING STAPLER WITH SEPARATE DRIVES AND

METHOD OF OPERATING THE GATHERING STAPLER

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

U.S. Patent 6,142,354 (Heinz Boss et al.), dated November 7, 2000, as mentioned on page 3 of the specification;

Published European Patent Application EP 0 956 974 A1 (Heinz Boss et al.), dated November 11, 1999, pertains to a drive mechanism for a gathering stapler with variable chain pitch, as mentioned on page 3 of the specification.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned above is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications,

patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 9, 2001

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